

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated April 1, 2009. By the present amendment, claims 1-7 have been amended to depend from method claims 8-9. In addition, new method claims 10-18, which depend from claims 8 and 9, have been added.

Applicants elect Group II (claims 8-9) for examination, and further request examination of claims 1-7 and 10-18, that now depend from claims 8-9.

It is submitted that all of the claims share the same special technical feature, i.e., x-ray examination of the detonating cord in its packaging prior to shipment. Therefore, withdrawal of the restriction requirement and examination of all the claims in the application are requested.

If the Examiner believes that there are any other points which may be clarified or otherwise disposed of either by telephone discussion or by personal interview, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated below. To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Docket No. 306.45490X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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